



For Immediate Release
December 8, 2003

Contact: Scott Ray
517-373-7670

I-Safe America brings Internet safety message to young people

Lansing – Sen. Alan Sanborn (R-Richmond) was so impressed with a recent presentation by I-Safe America that he brought them back to Macomb County today to do classroom presentations and appear on his Macomb Today cable show.

Sanborn learned of the I-Safe program after delivering the keynote address at a meeting in Clinton Township last month, where concerned citizens gathered to discuss Internet safety issues and education.

The I- Safe America program teaches youths and adults about the current Internet safety landscape and how education and community awareness are crucial in protecting Internet users from becoming victims as a result of unsafe online activities. The I- Safe presentation revealed such sobering statistics as:

- Forty-eight million youth ages 5 to 17 years regularly use the Internet.
- Youths between the ages of 5 and 17 years old currently spend 5 billion hours online annually.
- One in 5 young users has received unwanted sexual solicitations.
- One in 33 young users has received an aggressive solicitation to take their cyber relationship a step further to meet somewhere.

“I was surprised and deeply concerned by many of the statistics provided by I-Safe,” Sanborn said. “As a parent, I felt I had to do something to help bring this information to children and their parents and regarding the growing number and varieties of threats facing young people when they go online. So I arranged to bring the program to local schools and television.”

(More)

Each forum also provides opportunities for community members to join Community Action Teams, which assist student mentors in their efforts to plan and launch Cyber Safety Week in local schools.

An I-Safe America representative joined Sen. Sanborn in making presentations to students at Duncan Elementary School in Shelby Township and Later Elementary School in Armada Township today. They also took time to film an edition of the senator's Macomb Today cable show, to be shown later this month.

I-SAFE America is a congressionally funded non-profit Internet safety education foundation that implements Internet safety education and outreach programs for students in grades K-12 nationwide. For additional information on I-Safe America, classroom presentations or Macomb Today, please contact Sanborn toll free at 1-888-353-2526.

###